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MEAT INDUSTRY CRITICIZED;
SOY FLOUR PRICE FIXED

MEAT, LEATHER PRODUCTION BELOW PLAN -- Sofia Izgrev, 18 Jul 50

The Mesotsentrala State Meat Enterprise has fulfilled the plan for the first 6 months of 1950 as follows: purchase of cattle, slaughtering, and fattening have been accomplished by 117 percent, 156 percent for sheep and goats, 99 percent for lambs and kids, and 65 percent for the free sale of lambs and kids. The plan for the purchase of fattened pigs for slaughtering was fulfilled by 74.5 percent, and nonquota deliveries, 90.7 percent.

In spite of these favorable results, Mesotsentrala still suffers from many shortcomings, chiefly in regard to meat production, processing, refrigeration, and storage of necessary reserves for domestic use and export. Purchasing operations also are deficient in many areas; the organizations are not sufficiently active, and follow the old pattern of private industry by waiting until the farmers come and offer their products. Educational campaigns are not sufficiently persistent, and some purchasing branches try to obtain unduly high commissions, whereas others do not have sufficient credits. Norms for slaughtering and other operations have not been established yet, and livestock diseases are still frequent, because of the absence of effective preventive measures.

The 6-month plan for meat production has been fulfilled generally by 91 percent (115 percent for beef, 93 percent for sheep's and goat's meat, 105 percent for kid and lamb, and 80 percent for pork). The meat-processing plan for the same period has been fulfilled by 73 percent, and the lard-processing plan by 88 percent. The plan for sale of rationed meat has been fulfilled by 102 percent, and rations were issued regularly and in the determined quantities, whereas free sales at higher prices reached only 74 percent, and lard sales 82 percent of the plan. Generally speaking, sales operations were lacking in orderly plans, and distribution was so slow that the meat was sometimes spoiled and had to be rejected.

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The leather production plan, also under the jurisdiction of Mesotsentrala, likewise has not been fulfilled satisfactorily. The purchasing plan for the first 6 months of 1950 was fulfilled by 60.1 percent for lambkin and sheep's hides, 79.6 for lambs, 103 for kids, 59.8 for goats, 99.5 for solid-ungulate animals, 83.6 for cattle, and 74.3 percent for pig's hides. The main responsibility for the low fulfillment of plan quotas lies with the Central Cooperative Union.

REGULATE PRICE OF SOYBEAN FLOUR -- Sofia Zenedelsko Zname, 6 Jul 50

According to an order of the Council of Ministers, the price of soybean flour from the 1950 harvest has been set at 93 leva per kilogram at the warehouse, including the cost of the bags. The price includes a tax of 1.5 percent.

The price of soy bran remains at 7.5 leva per kilogram, including a tax of 5 percent.

BAKE LOW-QUALITY BREAD IN SOFIA -- Sofia Izgrev, 19 Jul 50

The problem of improving the poor quality of bread in Sofia was discussed at a meeting held on 18 July at the Municipal Council. The bad quality of bread throughout the city is ascribed to the diseased potatoes used for yeast production. The meeting decided that henceforth only hop yeast and sour yeast should be used for leavening in bread production.

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